

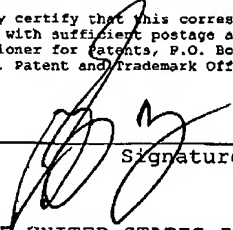
P2001,0110

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DateIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No. : 10/643,820 Confirmation No. 5168  
Applicant : Mark Hiatt et al.  
Filed : August 19, 2003  
Title : Configuration and a Method for Reducing  
Contamination with Particles on a Substrate  
in a Process Tool  
Group Art Unit : 1734  
Examiner :  
  
Docket No. : P2001,0110  
Customer No. : 24131

P R E L I M I N A R Y   A M E N D M E N T**Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S i r :

Preliminary to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.